

Circuit

A monthly employee publication of the Bonneville Power Administration



Reward goes to sheriff for nabbing dumper

(Above) Snohomish County Sheriff deputies check dumped tanks at several sites near Monroe Substation. The tanks were doubly dangerous – from the unstable acetylene gas and from the asbestos used inside to stabilize the gas under pressure. The Snohomish line crew found the discarded tanks on BPA property and notified the sheriff's office. (Below) Denis Sjoquist (left) presents check to Snohomish Deputy Dane Sant as Sheriff Rick Bart looks on.

Photos by Glenn Taylor

BPA gave a reward under the Federal Crime Witness Program to the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office on Nov. 1. Denis Sjoquist, Snohomish regional manager, presented a letter and a \$1,000 check to Deputy Dane Sant and Sheriff Rick Bart.

The reward was for Sant's work tracking down the person who dumped hazardous material on BPA property. The Snohomish line crew had discovered more than 150 acetylene tanks on BPA property around the Monroe Substation.

The tanks were pressurized cylinders of varied sizes. Line foreman Bob Sweet called the sheriff's office right away and then called BPA's security.

Jeff Millenno in security knows about acetylene and pressurized tanks. Acetylene gas is used in welding. Millenno says it "is highly unstable and can become explosive at pressure above 14 pounds per square inch." To further worsen the hazard and risk, the tanks contain asbestos. Millenno says industries use asbestos to stabilize gas in pressurized containers.

Deputy Sant answered Sweet's call and examined the site and hazardous cylinders. He later tracked down the person who dumped the material. The person then cleaned up the BPA sites. The offender had been traced to a large military surplus purchase.

Millenno says that the cleanup would have cost BPA thousands of dollars because of the hazardous materials in the acetylene tanks.

Judi leaves . . .

On the morning of Nov. 9, Judi Johansen announced to employees that she was leaving BPA. She said she had accepted a position with PacifiCorp and that Nov. 17 would be her last day.

In a letter to all employees, Johansen said she had many emotions on leaving. She said she was "proud to be associated with you in your public service to the region." And, "grateful for all I have learned from you."

At a press conference later, the departing administrator and CEO said what she thought were key issues for the Northwest.

"All of us in the energy industry need to work together to help the DSI," she said. "We need to continue to work for a unified fish plan for salmon survival. We need to put hundreds of millions (of dollars) annually into our regional transmission system."

Then she turned to BPA. "I hope the region will rally around and keep a strong BPA for the river resources we have," she said. "And not continue to fight over differences in allocation of the river's resources."



Photos by (clockwise from top) Gerald Lee, Nick Christmas and Jack Odgaard

"I want to thank all of the employees of BPA who I've worked with," Johansen said. "I'll miss them all but we'll still be working in the energy field together. I will continue to be a big fan of BPA."

Johansen had a chance to say goodbye to people at open houses the next week at Ross and at headquarters. Many employees stood in line. Humorous exchanges took place. And more than a few folks had tears and "protested" her leaving. But all wished her well in the future.

To a vast number of employees, BPA was losing an administrator who talked their language and who truly cared about them. And they wanted Johansen to know how *they* felt about *her*.

(See page 8, ... amid friendly "protests").



Employees had a laugh when the icing on a slice of cake read, "We're History." For the full cake message and the full story on the celebration for RTO workers, see page 3.

Photo by Jack Odgaard

Inside the Circuit

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- 8 Marathon & volunteers shine



Fisheye photos from the Ross Substation yard look like Christmas tree ornaments. Here they remind everyone to be safe with your holiday lights and candles. And to have a happy and joyful season.

Photos by Jack Odgaard

Jewish Sukkot is first of fall events



The Jewish Sukkot is among the first of fall holiday events that many people observe. BPA's Jewish Resource Group this year set up a sukka outside headquarters for the observance in mid-October.

Sukkot is the Jewish harvest festival held annually around the world for millennia. Also known as the Feast of Booths, it commemorates the 40 years of the Israelites wandering in the desert with Moses. It is the first holiday after the Jewish New Year and Yom Kippur.

The sukka, or booth, is a symbolic reminder of the frail huts the people built and lived in during

Members of the Jewish Resource Group finish the sukka they built near the headquarters west entrance. (Left to right) Neil Goodman, Steve Dunne and Cherilyn Harris put up decorations for the Sukkot event booth.

Photo by Jack Odgaard

Fall, Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas, end of a century and millennium and start of a new year – special times all. From traditions that date back many generations, people around the world have celebrated many holiday events in this last quarter of our calendar year.

Beginning with the end of harvest to the start of the new year, we celebrate our bounty, observe special religious times, travel to see family and friends, or just set aside time to relax and enjoy. One practice that seems to be common in all cultures and in all the observances is sharing.

People give of their bounty to less fortunate neighbors in need. They donate to charities that serve the poor. And they volunteer – in much larger numbers than at other times.

Many work groups at BPA find different ways to help the poor and needy at this time of year. Some put up giving trees, others put gifts under trees at malls and elsewhere. Some sponsor families or adopt a care center for the holidays.

This month, volunteers will work at soup kitchens and dining halls to help serve holiday meals to the homeless and poor. Others will help the Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul and other groups pack food boxes to deliver to homes. Some will collect food for the Oregon Food Bank and shelters, or work with the local police bureau Sunshine Division to collect new toys for tots.

The variety and occasions are as numerous as the days. And BPA employees give in as many ways with their talent, time and treasure.

One of the biggest charity events for BPA folks is the annual Santa party at the Ross Complex. Dozens of employees will buy toys, clothing and other items for needy children from the East Vancouver Child Care Center.

All times are good for giving

The Ross folks hold a lunch hour party for the kids. Santa arrives in a sleigh-locomotive on wheels. Employee elves help Santa distribute the huge bundles to each boy and girl. Others serve cookies and punch.

But BPA employees don't just give gifts and money to help over the holidays. Throughout the year, they volunteer in civic and charity events. And raise funds and give in other ways to help the needy. This is a good time to mention some BPA volunteers for current "cases of caring."

Numerous employees got kids' names and lists for the Santa Party at a mid-November potluck of the Ross Canyon Club at the warehouse. At their spring potluck this year, the group gave two \$500 checks – one to the YWCA sexual assault program and the other to a Headstart program for infants and toddlers.

The Ross employees don't just do everything themselves. They solicit other donors and participants to make it a real community event. Thus the American Legion provides the Santa locomotive and Safeway donates the treats for the Santa party.

The group also finds help for its fund-raisers. Tina Conover wrote a letter to thank Elaine Low for the chicken salad her Kitchen Goddess Café donated for the spring potluck.

their long sojourn. A true sukka must be shaky, while at the same time sturdy enough to stand up to the wind.

The roof is made of locally grown vegetation, layered densely enough for shade but lightly enough to see the stars through the ceiling at night. A sukka is always temporary and stays up about a week. "Many Jewish communities and families put up a shaky little sukka each year," says Cherilyn Harris, "and it stays up for the weeklong holiday." The dates for the festival may vary up to a month in the fall.

During the observance this year, JRG members hosted students and explained the festival and custom to them. And interested employees were welcomed to the sukka during the week.

Harris says people most commonly eat a meal in the booth. "What we do during the week is dwell in the booth for a time," she says.

BPA itself got a donation in the past year. Perry Jorgensen retired from the transmission construction branch in 1981 and the crew gave him a miniature 500 kV air blast breaker. Now Jorgensen wanted to donate it to BPA. He reads the *Circuit* and sent an e-mail to ask if we would like to have his model. I checked with transmission and the training center could use it, so TBL followed up.

One of the events that employees like to volunteer for with family members is the Portland Marathon. The fall event can be fun for kids of all ages. See the articles about the 2000 marathon on page 7. This year 22 BPA employees, eight relatives and one retiree worked at the 21st mile aid station sponsored by The Associates.

Volunteers came from all major business lines and groups. Power led the pack with 16 people. They were: Syd Berwager, Jennie Brenden, Don Davey, Kathe Donaldson and husband Chuck, Rita Gill, Kathy Hacker, Gloria Hernandez, Margaret Lewis and son Chauncey, Sheila Riewer, Jenny Roehm, Marta Salazar and great nieces Rebecca and Kathleen, and Andrea Schacher.

Transmission had eight volunteers. They were: Joe Bebee, Thomas Moore, Sandy Simpson and son Jordan, Suzy Sivyver, and Berhanu Tesema and daughter Martha and son Noah. The corporate groups had five volunteers – Doug Browning, Mike Caldwell and daughter Sara, Kristina Rohe and Joseph Sharpe. Tom Hohl was there from Employee and Business Resources, and Allison Draper was the one retiree.

The year-end holidays and holy days do bring out extra efforts by many to share with others. But BPA employees have cases of caring throughout the year. And as any volunteer will affirm, all times are good for giving.

— Jack Odgaard, editor

Circuit

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More than 100 employees attended the Ross Canyon Club fall potluck in mid-November. The pre-Thanksgiving event is a fund raiser for charities that the Vancouver employee group supports. Employees bring favorite dishes and the club provides the baked ham and turkey. Many people who attended also took names and information on children they would buy clothing and gifts for. The Canyon Club holds a Santa party for needy

children from East Vancouver Child Care Center each year before Christmas. (Below) Kathy Baker and Mike Conners from the warehouse replenish the main dishes while folks dish up on the long warehouse serving table (above).

Photos by Jack Odgaard

Photographer correction

The November *Circuit* wrongly listed Sherry Lind as the photographer for the pictures of Henry Fuller on page 3. Laura Williams took the photos and should have been credited.



1



2



3

1 & 2, People from around the agency who worked on RTO attended the lunch.

3, TBL Senior Vice President Mark Maher "reflected" on the success of BPA's work on RTO West this year. BPA folks helped put RTO West out front in the nation.

TBL holds celebration midway for RTO folks

The Northwest made great strides in setting up RTO West this year. The new regional transmission organization will one day handle most of the electric energy movement in the Northwest. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has ordered regions to create independent grid system operations as part of FERC's deregulation of the electric industry in recent years.

The progress made on RTO West so far was due mostly to BPA employees. More than 200 folks have been working much of this year on the RTO. More work remains to be done before the RTO is fully set up and ready to function.

But management thought it was time to recognize the people across BPA who have been working on the effort. That includes several folks from outside the Transmission Business Line, as well as dozens of TBL employees.

So TBL held a midway thank-you luncheon in early October. Executives attended the lunch and gave employees a pat on the back. Administrator Judi Johansen and TBL Senior Vice President Mark Maher praised the BPA folks for putting RTO West ahead of the rest of the country. Others who attended to say thanks were Power Business Line Senior Vice President Paul Norman, Transmission Marketing Vice President Chuck Meyer and RTO project manager Peggy Olds.

TBL had planned to hold the lunch outdoors at the Dittmer picnic area but a type of energy "crisis" forced a change in plans. The tables and food were set up when strong winds chased – or blew – the gathering inside.

Typical of the teamwork that has marked the work on the RTO so far, people pitched in to move the celebration. Executives and employees grabbed tables and supplies and marched everything over to the DOB-1 auditorium.



4

4 & 5, Transmission Business Line head Mark Maher gets the first piece of cake from Melanie Jackson. The cake has the many RTO utility players flagged. At the top, the message reads, "Thank You. We're making history together." The piece of cake on the front page of the *Circuit* has the words from two lines of the icing that spelled "We're history."



5

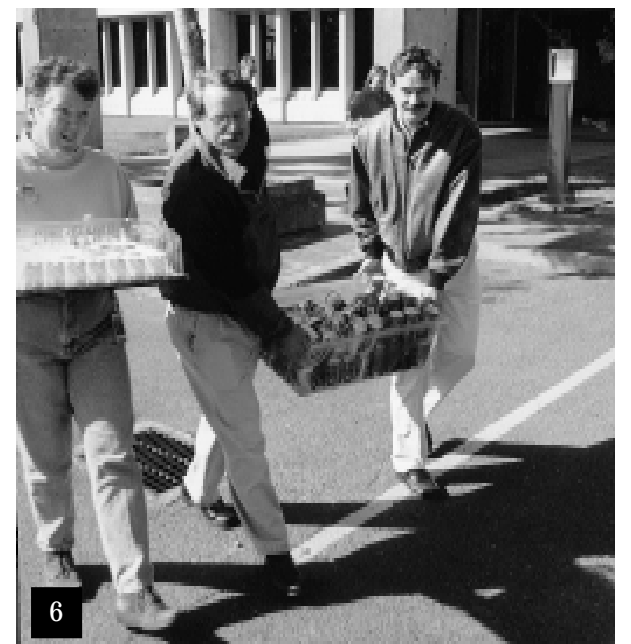
6, 7 & 8, Executives and employees hustled to haul food, tables and supplies out of the wind and indoors for the RTO midway celebration.



8



7



6

Photos by Jack Odgaard

Two BPA teams squared off for the second year in a row to decide the Energy Bozo Softball Tournament championship this summer. Portland's team, coached by Joe Bebee, defeated Frank Brown's Bozos from Seattle. The Portlanders overcame a 7-0 deficit to win the game, 14-11, and the tourney championship.

Last year, the Ross Bozos defeated BPA's Seattle team for the tourney title at Ocean Shores, Wash. This year's tourney was held at Leavenworth, Wash. The Portland win means that each of the four teams BPA fields has now won the Bozo tourney at least once. The fourth team comes from Spokane.

This year's weather was hot and dry, compared to heavy rain on the coast last year. But other events associated with the tourney weekend added to the fun and enjoyment. Between games the energy Bozos took a rafting trip on the Wenatchee

Portland out-Bozo's Seattle for energy group's trophy

River, had a catered dinner with live music, and enjoyed the scenery and camaraderie.

The host for this year's tournament was the team formerly known as the Washington State Energy Office. Next year's host will be Puget Power. This was the 16th year the event has been held between teams in the Northwest sponsored by utilities or energy agencies.

— by Joe Bebee of transmission lines engineering



Portland's winning Bozo softball team included, left to right, (Front): Meri Foeller, Joe Bebee, Marci Martinez, Art Martinez and Julie Anderson; (Back) Tom Foeller, Syd Berwagaer, Elvis Clark, Lori Clark, Anne Self, Christina Novak, Rob Anderson and Bryon Strickland.

Members of the Seattle Bozo's who finished runner-up were Frank Brown and wife Lauri, Don Bollinger, Tom Irvine, Marylou and husband Ernest Macias; and retirees, relatives and friends Julie Balss, Jennifer and Paul Williamson, Toby Garcia, Bill Andrus, Don Fay and Dan Rottler.

A new automated control system is being installed at the big power dams of the Federal Columbia River Power System. It's called GDACS. GDACS *stands* for Generic Data Acquisition And Control System, but it *means* reliability – with a capital “R.”

The new system will make command and control decisions faster than you can say “voltage instability.” This warp-speed process will allow the FCRPS to automatically avert system operators’ worst nightmares: system-wide disturbances.

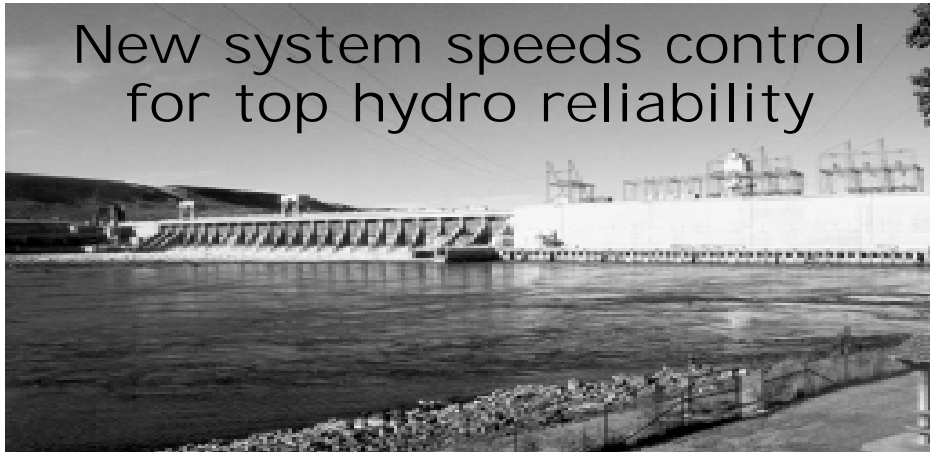
“Basically, we’ve re-invented the design for hydro-generator control systems,” says Mike Berger of BPA’s Power Business Line, who managed the project for BPA. “There were countless challenges. But the attitude of every team member from the beginning to the end was, ‘there is a solution.’ The results speak for themselves.”

GDACS uses state-of-the-art equipment – sensors, control hardware, redundant systems, software and operator stations – to automatically control and operate large hydro generators. The system is always “on” and provides the structure for data collection as well as command and control.

GDACS puts in place a significant shield that will help increase overall reliability. The system will improve the reliability of any project that uses it by giving the operators a better picture of the plant operation and by providing a better tool for controlling generating units.

A multi-agency team of representatives from the FCRPS operating agencies – the Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and BPA – installed, tested and dedicated the system at McNary Dam this summer. McNary was the first dam to get GDACS because it is significant to maintain voltage stability in the Northwest transmission grid. It was also the only lower Columbia plant that did not have a data acquisition and control system.

New system speeds control for top hydro reliability



McNary Dam and power house reach across the Columbia River between Oregon and Washington near Umatilla, Ore. Only Bonneville and Grand Coulee Dams on the main river pre-date McNary. It was completed in November 1953 and has 1,120 megawatts generation capacity.

Photo by Jack Odgaard

After the successful 1,000-hour test at McNary, the new system was to be installed at John Day, The Dalles, Bonneville and Chief Joseph dams. The price tag for all five plants is \$24.5 million.

Black Saturday for the West Coast – Aug. 10, 1996 – may not have been a day that will live in infamy. But it certainly was a day that had many BPA employees burning the midnight oil. Overloaded and sagging BPA power lines dipped into a filbert orchard that day setting

off a series of events that left millions of people in the dark all along the West Coast. The news covered traffic snarls and air conditioning shut downs in the California heat.

Fact finding hearings followed blue ribbon panels that were convened to examine what happened. While no single cause was identified, the Corps of Engineers and BPA developed lists of recommendations to keep history from repeating itself. Everyone agreed that creating a new data acquisition and control



Roy Fox (right foreground), manager of BPA's federal hydro projects gives a plaque to Dave Coleman, McNary Project chief of operations for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Many of the Corps McNary staff surround the two. Fox congratulated the Corps staff for its excellent work to develop a new high-tech data and control system for the hydro operations.

Photo by Sherry Lind

system was the best way to avoid future Black Saturdays. Thus GDACS was born.

Berger says the Corps gets a large chunk of credit for GDACS.

“The GDACS software is a product of Corps know-how,” he says. “These guys produced something in-house that will not only fit the need, but it can be modified, upgraded and maintained easily.”

Corps employees at McNary played a vital role. Since McNary had no data and control system before, additional infrastructure had to be installed. Trying to schedule unit outages to do the work added to the time-consuming process.

“It was difficult to schedule time to do the work because McNary is a pinch point on the river,” Berger says. “That means that all of the turbines there are needed to pass water during much of the year. So getting outages is very difficult and that made scheduling work difficult.”

BPA funded the project, procured some of the time-critical hardware, and took part in the design process.

Paul Norman, BPA's senior vice president for power, thanked the GDACS project team at a June 14 dedication ceremony at McNary Dam. “BPA, the Corps and, especially, McNary project personnel overcame numerous hurdles to bring this project online,” he said. “This system paves the way for us to optimize the operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System under the Asset Management Strategy.”

GDACS arrived on the scene none too soon. Some existing systems have begun to fail. Others are so old, keeping them running has often meant using super glue and paper clips because replacement parts are no longer readily available.

According to Berger, the new system will let FCRPS handle the ever-increasing complexity of the new, deregulated energy markets. He says it's timely and it works.

— by Perry Gruber, formerly of the communications group, now at Intel

Power putts put CFC in the green

Three teams and several individuals took to the BPA greens in early November to putt for folding green to benefit the Combined Federal Charities campaign.

Bryan Crawford and Kelly Otis, who co-chaired the CFC drive for the lower Columbia area of BPA, came up with ideas for a shorter but concerted effort for the CFC this year. Each week would have a different event to support one of the mini-themes of nurturing.

Besides the miniature golf tournament, the CFC drive included a bowling tourney at Vancouver, candy and flower sales, a business line quiz show, a Santa letter and gift baskets day, and a silent Web auction throughout the five weeks. Weekly raffles and a flower pot change collection were other small fund raisers for the drive.

Each week also had a specific item for folks to donate. Canned food collections went to the food banks in the Portland-Vancouver metro area. Clothing drives benefited local elder care centers and the needy. Books went to S.M.A.R.T. and Books for Kids. Blankets and coats went to local shelters.

The CFC at BPA headquarters and Vancouver began the last week of October and ended the last week in November. The Nov. 7 golf challenge and putt-off at headquarters was to benefit Northwest Medical Teams. The team challenge



had twosomes from power, transmission and one representing all other groups. Other individuals paid to play.

John Pyrch and Paul Krueger putted for power and won the challenge. However, fans challenged their win because they were the only players who brought their own putters. While the outcome may be tied up in court for weeks, the money won for CFC won't be tied up.

Randy Ridenhour, Chuck Nellis and Mike Johns played for transmission – the only threesome in the challenge, but they still couldn't beat the pro putters of power. Jim Curtis and Pam Marshall did respectably well playing for everyone else – the between-the-business lines group (BBL).

The lowest score for the day was 15 (for nine greens), by Mike Johns of transmission. Cherie Long of the power trading floor scored the low for women at 17. More than 20 people had holes in one. John Pyrch made 5, Mike Johns made 4 and Terry Esvelt made 3. But only one person aced the toughest hole on the course. Cherie Long putted perfectly to sink the hole-in-one on No. 7.

The final CFC results should be available sometime in December. Watch for them in *This Week* and on the Web.

Power putter Paul Krueger sends his ball toward the hole on No. 9 as teammate John Pyrch coaxes him on. The golf challenge and play was in the second week of the 2000 CFC drive for BPA.

Photo by Jack Odgaard

Teamwork has been the byword of BPA's business the past five years. It's at the heart of group successes all across the agency. It's helped BPA rise above the competition in all areas.

But teamwork and competition take on even more meaning in Environment, Fish and Wildlife when fall rolls around. And the start of the holiday season brings out the best in the EF&W groups.

Take, for example, the group's second annual pumpkin carving contest. The group's four main workgroups squared off. The teams put their best knives, saws, needlers and hackers forward. The object was to carve the best pumpkin and win the contest.

But who did the judging? Well, the members of the workgroup, and any other BPA employees who wanted to make their choices count. All

Teamwork shows in EF&W when fall holidays roll around



anyone had to do was buy tickets and vote with the tickets. While the EF&W staff could all be considered fair in their appraisals, the outside voters no doubt helped make sure the "best" carved pumpkins got the recognition they were due.

The proceeds from the contest go to finance the group's annual holiday party. That team effort includes the



group's support for a charity and a food drive that helps the needy.

The *Circuit* did its own judging this year and selected winners by categories. The policy and planning (KEC) team of Jim Kehoe, Molly Moreland and Nancy Weintraub had the most far out, or alien, entry. Fish and Wildlife (KEW) carvers Brad Miller and Brenda Heister were the most story-like with their rendition of Dr. Seuss's *Cat*

in the Hat. Pollution prevention's (KEP) Annette Davis got moral support from costumed coworkers as she carved a witch and broom for the most original pumpkin face. And the ad hoc and admin team (KE) of Patrice Baker, Julie Hanes, Kris Walsh and Mary Kerr scored with the most horrible looking – a sort of veggie face.

When the work was done, it didn't matter to the competing teams who won. They had all carved a start to a spirited season at work and in the community.



This "vegie-sapien" can barely hold up her head at the end of the annual EF&W pumpkin carving contest for the holidays. The garden medley veggie face was the worst (best) looking of the event.

Photos by Jack Odgaard

Environment, Fish & Wildlife folks start the holidays with their late October pumpkin carving contest. (1) Costumed coworkers peer over Annette Davis's shoulder as she works with a Charlie Brown pumpkin saw. (2) Brenda Heister and Brad Miller smile confidently with their *Cat in the Hat* creation. (3) Molly Moreland, Jim Kehoe and Nancy Weintraub used the most professional tools for their alien project. (4) Mary Kerr, Patrice Baker and Julie Hanes pick a turnip as the next item for their big veggie face.

Photos by Jack Odgaard

BPA presented awards to 67 employees who worked on the All-H project the past year. The workers from

across the agency were recognized for their work in the cross agency team effort. Then-Administrator Judi Johansen handed out awards at an Oct. 5 celebration in Portland.

Other executives helped with awards and congratulated employees for their work. They included Paul Norman, head of the Power Business Line; Alex Smith, head of Environment, Fish & Wildlife; and Lorri Bodi, senior policy advisor for fish.

The cross agency team included people from most major work groups – power, corporate, legal and shared services. Of the total, 33 people worked on the All-H paper. Another 24 worked on the biological opinion, and 10 people gave administrative support.

Many of the BPA staff worked with folks from other agencies. The All-H project was an effort launched by nine agencies in the Northwest in 1999. Its purpose was to provide a comprehensive effort to save salmon species in the Columbia River Basin. The program covers four major areas – habitat, harvest, hatcheries and hydropower.

The federal caucus held 15 public meetings around the Northwest last spring and summer. More than 9,000 citizens spoke at the meetings, and more than 60,000 people commented in writing to the Corps.

On July 27 the federal caucus released the All-H paper for technical review by the region's states and tribal governments. Federal agencies will use the plan as a blueprint to save salmon in the future. The National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will use it to guide their work under the Endangered Species Act.



67 get team award for All-H project



Lorri Bodi, Judi Johansen and Tony White hand out awards to employees for the All-H team effort. And then-Administrator Johansen shows a moment of enthusiasm at the awards celebration. (Top) Many of the folks who attended the program gathered for a middle stairway photo at headquarters.



Photos by Jack Odgaard



More from 30th anniversary

Celilo tour gives execs close-up

The November *Circuit* ran some photos of the Celilo Converter Station open house at The Dalles late this summer. The station is 30 years old this year. While BPA employees, families and retirees visited and enjoyed the open house, others toured the station.

Some folks got an in-depth tour led by Celilo Station Manager Bruce Lavier. He took then-

(Left) Celilo Chief Operator Bruce Lavier (center) explains an operation as then-Administrator Judi Johansen and Transmission Senior VP Mark Maher look at the huge equipment. (Right) A sign on an inside door at the Celilo Converter Station gives some idea of the prestige BPA and its people have within the world engineering community.

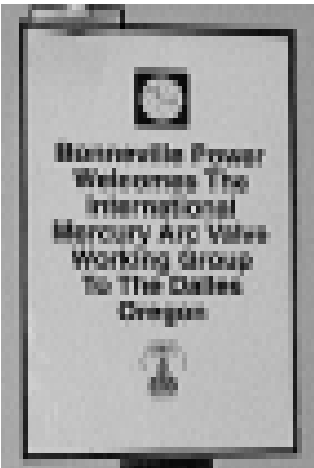
(Photos by Jack Odgaard)

Administrator Judi Johansen, Transmission Senior Vice President Mark Maher and others on a close-up look. The group saw the giant thyristor valves, older mercury arc valves that they replaced, the control center, the power yard and more.

Celilo is the northern end of the direct-current transmission line that connects BPA and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

(LADWP). The DC line is the biggest of the four high voltage power lines that make up the Pacific Northwest-Pacific Southwest Intertie.

The 3,100-megawatt DC line is 860 miles long. It's the largest and longest high voltage DC line in North America and one of the largest in the world.



September anniversaries

10 years

David C. Coseo, Accountant, Managerial Accountant, Portland
Ann Y. Shintani, Public Utilities Specialist, Western Power Business Area, Portland
Margaret G. Stahl, Transmission Field Clerk, Redmond Region, Celilo
Christopher R. Jenks, Light Truck Driver, Material Handling 7 Transportation, Vancouver
Andreas P. Mueller, Chemist, HV Equipment, Vancouver
Jill M. Grunkemeier, Structural Engineer, Transmission Development, Portland
Adelmo A. De La Cruz, Electrical Engineer, Customer Service Planning & Engineering, Portland

20 years

Randolph D. Perrin, Program Analyst, Information Systems, Portland
Jean A. Pennington, Public Information Assistant, Information Services, Portland
Tami S. Panichello, Computer Specialist, Operation Services, Portland
Sandra L. Fenner, Disbursement Technician, Disbursement Operations, Portland
Grant W. Vincent, Computer Specialist, Information System Development, Portland
James C. Reilly, Public Utilities Specialist, Weather & Streamflow Forecasting, Portland
Cecil E. Hamilton, Power System Control Craftsman II, Franklin
Robert A. Stroncsek, Electronics Engineer, Network Planning, Vancouver
Ron E. Baugh, Computer Specialist, Technical Operations, Vancouver

25 years

Karen A. Delano, Visual Information Specialist, Audio/Visual Media, Portland
Charles R. Hubbard, Safety & Occupation Health Specialist, Safety, Vancouver
Kevin E. Dorning, Computer Specialist, Cyber Protection Program Manager, Portland
Deborah Maria, Public Utilities Specialist, Information System Development, Portland
Mollie L. Gratreak, Secretary, Business Strategy Finance & Risk Management, Portland
Spencer G. Wedlund Jr., Public Utilities Specialist, Account Services, Portland
Arthur W. Watherwax, Substation Operator, Substation Operations, Franklin

30 years

Lois N. Delihanty, Management Analyst, Internal Operations, Portland
Mary M. Schneider, Management Assistant, Information Services, Portland
Stephen J. Bonneville, Duty Transmission Acquisition, Duty Scheduling, Portland
Clinton A. Bostwick, Right-Of-Way Maintenance Specialist, Snohomish Region
Randolph D. Vantuyt, Electrician, Substation Maintenance, Vancouver
Michael G. Coogan, Senior System Dispatcher, Dittmer Dispatch, Vancouver

35 years

David L. Alt, Line Equipment Operator A, Transmission Field Services, Vancouver
Verne G. Newsom, System Protection Control Craftsman II, Vancouver

Dennis R. Myers, Substation Operator, Substation Operations, Ashe

October anniversaries

5 years

Wendy L. Hilger, Disbursement Operations, Time Coordinator, Portland
Richard L. Kleint, TLM - Chemawa, Lineman, Chemawa

10 years

David L. Etherly, Shared Services, Management Analyst, Portland
Donita L. Jordan, Internal/External Communications, Audio/Visual Coordinator, Portland
Sandra J. Cooksey, Transmission Acquisition Scheduling, Public Utilities Specialist, Portland
Jack M. Callahan, Customer Services, Mechanical Engineer, Portland
Joseph J. Van Buren, Substation Operations-Franklin, Substation Operator, Franklin
Christopher L. Patrick, Substation Maintenance-Celilo, Electrician Foreman II, Celilo
Joel V. Reyna, Apprentices-Franklin, Substation Operator Apprentice, Franklin

15 years

Ronald J. Homenick, Financial Analysis & Requirements, Financial Analyst, Portland
Lynne E. Valenzuela, Staff Management, Administrative Specialist, Portland
Julie A. Costello, OBS-Transmission Acquisition, Public Utilities Specialist, Portland
Cheryl D. Emerson, Transmission Field Services, Cost Analyst, Vancouver
Peter P. Poling, Construction Services & Field Purchasing, Contract Specialist, Vancouver

20 years

Dawn R. Boorse, Environmental Analysis, Environmental Specialist, Portland
Germaine G. Sunday, General Counsel, Staff Manager, Portland
Jacilyn R. Margeson, Corporate/Fish and Wildlife, Senior Attorney-Advisor, Portland
Debra K. Niemann, Corporate/Fish and Wildlife, Secretary, Portland
Donald V. Wolfe, Deregulation Optimization, Public Utilities Specialist, Portland
Edward L. Bleifuss, Risk Management, Manager, Risk Management, Portland
Nancy J. Vacca, Customer Services-Spokane, Public Utilities Specialist, Spokane
Julie K. Rose, Trading Floor, Public Utilities Specialist, Portland
Larry W. Simms, Substation Maintenance-Ross, Electrician Foreman I, Vancouver
Iris S. Brannam, Transmission Supply, Public Utilities Specialist, Vancouver
Adele M. Steinwinder, Transmission Development, Civil Engineering Technician, Portland

25 years

Christine V. Kondrat, Federal Hydro Projects, Public Utilities Specialist, Portland
Carie E. Lee, Regional Coordination, Public Utilities Specialist, Portland
Roger L. Maddox, Customer Services-Spokane, Public Utilities Specialist, Spokane

Diane L. Sisson, Revenue, Metering & Contract, Public Utilities Specialist, Portland
James D. Potts, Central Electrical Services, Electrician, Vancouver
Kippen R. Moxness, Transmission Marketing & Sales, Customer Account Executive, Vancouver
Mark S. Davis, Transmission Supply, Public Utilities Specialist, Vancouver
Richard L. Hill, Control and Protection, Electrical Engineer, Portland
Matt A. Hakola Jr., Munro Dispatch, System Dispatcher, Mead

30 years

Thomas C. Dekdyen, Communications and Liaison, Electrical Engineer, Portland
Dennis E. Surface, General Craft Services, Painter, Vancouver
Larry E. Bickham, SPC Snohomish, System Protection Control Craftsman II, Snohomish
Carolyn M. Lakey, Olympia Region, Transmission Field Clerk, Chehalis
Donald R. House, Telecommunications, Electronics Engineering Technician, Portland
Henry E. Penrod, Dittmer Dispatch, Senior System Dispatcher-Relief, Vancouver

35 years

Leonard O. Halseth Jr., Substation Maintenance, Electrician Foreman III, Covington
Dale D. Weaver, Substation Operations, Substation Operator, Port Angeles
Wayne H. Litzenberger, Control and Protection, Electrical Engineer, Portland

November anniversaries

10 years

Kamala Rogers-Holliday, Sr. Training and Communications Specialist, Change Management, Portland
Michael A. Jenkins, Electrician, Substation Maintenance, Chemawa
Joseph A. Bogner, Power System Control Craftsman, PSC -Garrison, Garrison
Jared D. Sarkinen, Electrical Engineer, SPC-Kalispell, Kalispell

15 years

Cashus J. Fisher, Electrician, Substation Maintenance, Bell
Kathryn K. Donaldson, Administrative Specialist, Staff Management, Portland
Rosario Tate, Public Utilities Specialist, Scheduling Coordination, Vancouver
Don C. Weaver, Public Utilities Specialist, Schedule Planning, Portland

20 years

David C. Lee, Carpenter Foreman III, General Craft Services, Vancouver
David D. Deacon, Electrician Apprentice I, Apprentices, Vancouver
Rose M. Henschel, Quality Assurance Specialist, Materials Management, Vancouver

25 years

Kenneth D. Allen, Substation Operator, Substation Operations, Kalispell
Helenann W. Volpe, Mechanical Engineer, Transmis-

sion Lines, Portland
Tsu-Huei Liu Ger, Electrical Engineer, Network Planning, Vancouver
Sandra M. Rapozo, Realty Specialist, Real Estate Field Services, Bell

30 years

Mathew G. Alling, Senior System Dispatcher, Munro Dispatch
Paul G. Priddy, Computer Specialist, Munro Dispatch
Larry A. Davidson, Manager, Financial Operations, Portland
Thomas C. Thompson, Sheet Metal Foreman II, General Craft Services, Vancouver
Stephen K. Davis, Deputy Regional Manager, Snohomish
Daniel A. Hodson, Substation Operator, Substation Operations, Vancouver
Randall W. Chong, Substation Operator, Substation Operations, Kalispell

35 years

Richard P. Castoldi, Electrician Foreman III, Substation Maintenance, Olympia
Garry W. Peterson, Chief, Substation Operator III, Substation Operations, Celilo
David M. Stefonek, Electrical Engineer, Network Planning, Vancouver

Retirements

Christopher M. Mugot, Operating Accountant, Managerial Accounting, retired Sept. 9 with 23 years service.
Karen A. Delano, Visual Information Specialist, Audio/Visual Media, retired Sept. 18 with 25 years service.
John A. Lambert, Accountant, Managerial Accounting, retired Sept. 23 with 26 years service.
Sharon K. Blair, Information Manager, Transmission Business Line, retired Sept. 29 with 21 years service.
Lester L. Davidson, Computer Specialist, Application Services, retired Sept. 29 with 20 years service.
Leo W. DeCandido, Lead Electrical Engineering Technician, Scheduling & Estimating, retired Sept. 30 with 35 years service.
Linda R. Emmons, Inventory & Logisitcs System Control Coordinator, retired Sept. 30 with 30 years service.
Maureen R. Flynn, Public Utilities Specialist, Federal Hydro Projects, retired Sept. 30 with 21 years service.
Edward C. Klinkenberg, General Engineer, Scheduling and Estimating, retired Sept. 30 with 32 years service.
Joris O. Lommen, Civil Engineer, Survey, Mapping & Photogrammetry, retired Sept. 30 with 34 years service.
Robert F. Mazurkiewicz, Supervisory Nuclear Engineer, Contract Generating Resources - Operation, retired Sept. 30 with 29 years service.
Vincent P. Ripley, Printing Plant Foreman, CGMP, retired Sept. 30 with 33 years service.
Robert Ward, Computer Specialist, CITV, retired Sept. 30 with 23 years service.
Eugene C. Meyers, Line Equipment Operator B, Transmission Field Services, retired Oct. 1 with 22 years service.
Demetrious C. (Jim) Assuras, Management Analyst, CIP retired Oct. 31 with 35 years service.
Larry R. Jones, System Dispatcher, Outage, Munro Dispatch, retired Nov. 3 with 30 years service.
Paulette I. Seeman, Administrative Tech, Personnel Services, retired Nov. 4 with 30 years service.
Charles W. Marsh, Chief Operator III, Transmission Field Services, retired Nov. 3 with 30 years service.

Most people in Portland were probably still sleeping, enjoying their morning coffee or

sitting down to breakfast at 7 a.m. on Oct. 1. Wherever they were, they were most likely comfy and cozy when the gun sounded to start the 29th annual Portland Marathon. That includes most of the 40 plus people who would work the 21st mile aid station sponsored by The Associates that day.

But for a dozen BPA people, that Sunday started out anything *but* comfy and cozy. Or even warm. Or just dry.

We were the BPA contingent who would run and walk *in* the marathon. It may be judged as the “best organized in North America” and most welcoming to walkers, but Portland’s 2000-edition marathon didn’t start out too friendly or inviting.

About 30 minutes before the start, the skies opened up with a downpour that filled some streets to overflowing their curbs. I was driving toward downtown with a fellow walker at the time and I muttered a little prayer of thanks that we had been spared that deluge. “A good thing we didn’t get to the starting line too early this year,” I thought.

As I turned onto Burnside Street toward the river, traffic came to a near standstill. At Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, a swift current of water covered the wide intersection at least half a foot deep. My thanks then turned to an entreaty. “Maybe this rain can stop and we’ll have clear skies, or at least no rain the rest of the day,” I hoped, almost out loud.

By the time I found a place to park along Southwest 2nd Avenue, the rain had stopped. We had several blocks to walk to the start – a nice little warm-up for the event.

Light sprinkles began to fall midway to the starting line by city hall. By the time we got there the skies unleashed the second downpour of the morning. This time we weren’t spared. It was barely 10 minutes until the marathon start and nearly 8,000 of us stood there getting drenched.

Just before 7 a.m. the rain stopped. “A reprieve after all,” I thought as I sloshed across the starting line, seven minutes after the gun sounded.

Somewhere in this bobbing throng of wet and questionably sane people were 11 other BPA folks who had entered the marathon. Half of us ran it and half walked it – seven men and five women in all from Portland and Vancouver and from most of BPA’s major work groups.

I wondered if any of the others were having second thoughts. I had done this for the six previous years, but this was the first time I really wondered if I had made a good choice.

Shortly after the start we had a slight scare with some sprinkles. “What difference does it make now,” I thought. “We couldn’t get much wetter.” But the sprinkles tapered off and the marathon throng spread out along the downtown streets.

We were just getting warmed up – and the sound of hundreds of shoes sloshing on the street was growing faint – when the skies opened up again. I regretted my previous sarcasm. We were 45 minutes into the marathon and we got one more thorough soaking.

But this one wasn’t as heavy or as long as the last one. And that one hadn’t been as bad as the one before it. “Maybe it will let up completely – soon,” I thought, now respectfully hopeful instead of sarcastic. The audible sound of sloshing increased only slightly after this shorter downpour, and it soon disappeared entirely.

By this time, across the city and the Willamette River to the North, BPA and Kiwanis Club volunteers were setting up The Associates’ 21st mile aid station. The earliest few volunteers got some rain

A bit of marathon madness – and “shoes off” to volunteers



Do volunteers or marathoners have more fun? It’s hard to tell by these shots at The Associates 21st mile aid station in the Portland Marathon. (1) Kristina Rohe and Joe Bebee poise with water ready to hand to passing marathoners. (2) Sonya Baskerville still has a smile in her first-ever marathon. (3) Three BPA women in the center rally volunteers for a quick group shot – (left to right) Suzy Sivyer, Kathe Donaldson and Jenny Roehm.

Photos by Don Davey

between 7:30 and 8. But most of the 30 plus BPA and related volunteers during the day missed the downpours. Still we couldn’t hold their good fortune against them.

The aid station along North Willamette Boulevard overlooks Swan Island and has a great view of the Fremont Bridge and city skyline to the south. It’s always a welcome sight to marathoners. For one thing, it means there’s just five miles to go. It’s also a welcome stop for people with blisters or sore muscles or who need to catch a breath.

But it’s more than that – especially to BPA marathoners who may see a familiar face or two. BPA volunteers hand water, Gatorade and snacks to marathoners. They’re ready with bandages and first-aid kits to help anyone in need. And most important, they encourage folks and give us a pat on the back.

The 21st mile aid station wins an award from the marathon organization nearly every year. And the volunteers always seem to have fun. By the time the marathoners got to the 21st mile this year, most were dried out – from the rainfall at least.

The dreary early morning start was now in the past – 40,000 paces ago. Aid station volunteers had smiles, cool drinks and pats on the back to boost our spirits for the final leg.

As I strode down Interstate Avenue toward the Steel Bridge, my thoughts turned toward the cold Popsicles that will taste so good at the finish. A sure sign of a warmed up marathoner.

Rain? What rain? I think I’ll do this again next year.

— by Jack Odgaard, editor

Volunteers “win” again for marathoners, BPA

Don Davey of Energy Efficiency has been a Portland Marathon volunteer for 10 years. In that time he has served as team captain for The Associates (Northwest Federal Employees Assn.) that sponsors the marathon’s 21st mile aid station with the South Riverside and Ross Island Kiwanis clubs.

BPA employees, family, friends and retirees make up the bulk of volunteers who work throughout the day. Since it’s four-fifths of the way from the start, the 21st mile station is one of the longest worked aid stops on the route.

Davey and the early workers show up before 8 a.m. to start setting up. They unfold tables, set up chairs, unload and set out stacks of paper cups, and fill huge coolers with water, Gatorade and ice. They unpack first-aid supplies and towels, and set out snacks. They’re ready for the first marathoners by 8:40 a.m.

Between then and 9 o’clock, the first wheelchair racers come by, then the fastest runners. By 9 a.m., a steady stream of runners passes. The line swells and large packs and small bunches pass at intervals until well past 1 p.m. Race walkers, slower runners, joggers and walkers of various paces come by.

Portland is one of the first marathons in the world to expand specifically for walkers. That in itself means the

course needs to stay open almost twice as long. So volunteers will be at the 21st mile up until 3:30 p.m.— or whenever the last marathoners come by.

World and U.S. race officials each year vote Portland among the best marathons. And the Portland Marathon consistently votes BPA’s 21st mile aid station as one of its best. This year the BPA station won the Walkers’ Choice Award.

Davey attended the annual marathon dinner on Nov. 9. Channel 2 news anchor and emcee Paul Linnman presented the awards.

Davey accepted the BPA award and said the volunteers were especially deserving this year. “Looking out the window that Sunday morning, it would have been very easy for you to just chuck it in,” he wrote the workers. “Instead, you came out and really helped the aid station shine for the marathoners.”

Davey said there was a lot of talk at the dinner about the rain. “No one could recall having such a heavy downpour in 29 years as we had at the start this year,” he said.

The aid station award went on the marathon display in the headquarters lobby last month and is now in the cafeteria trophy case. But the 10 hours that BPA volunteers were on display before thousands of people at the marathon will last a long time in community good will, Davey said.



KATU TV news anchor Paul Linnman (left) presents the Walkers’ Choice award to BPA’s Don Davey for the 21st mile aid station in the Portland Marathon this year. The Associates sponsors the station and BPA and Kiwanis Club volunteers staff it.

Northwest utility watchers have said that BPA seems to get just the right person for the right job at the right time. While her tenure was just 2½ years, Judi Johansen seems to have been the perfect person for her time.

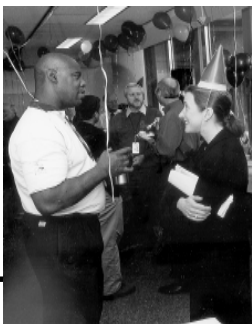
Others will extol her role in leading BPA through some unique challenges. So this *Circuit* takes a different focus. We asked employees what *they* thought of Johansen. People said a lot. Here are some comments.

Mike Conners at the Ross warehouse says, "Judi was a talented and skillful executive who earned her employees' respect and admiration." John Quinata at the Dittmer control center says, "Judi brought focus and compassion for employees. She has definitely made a difference. We will miss her."

John Soy in headquarters security says, "Judi was able to connect with all employees on the human and personal side. She's for real." Kathy Magness in the headquarters telephone office says, "The atmosphere has been a lot more friendly, and people seem more relaxed since Judi has been here."

Truman Conn at Walla Walla told about Johansen's visit to Ashe Substation this fall. "The transmission line crew was stringing fiber optics cable nearby. Equipment operator

...amid friendly protests"



Bruce Ginther talked Judi into taking the controls of a backhoe, and he helped her dig a hole for a guy anchor. The troops loved it, and I think she did too." Conn says, "Field employees always appreciated Judi's very candid and direct style."

Kenneth Barnhart at Portland says, "I appreciated Judi's support ... and her leadership in helping to make BPA a 'great place to work.'" Randy Ridenhour at Vancouver says, "She has meant a lot to every worker by never losing her focus on what employees bring to BPA."

Darrell Eastman in Portland says, "Judi never made any promises she couldn't keep, which earned the respect of the tribes. Her open door policy and inclusive attitude set an example for others." Orion Albro at Olympia says, "Her time here was an uplifting experience for us all. No one can replace her, but we will find someone to carry on the work."

Conners says, "She cared about the workplace environment, got around to visit way more than her predecessors and made a ton of friends. I miss her already." And Magness says, "To me, Judi is the person that anyone would be happy to have in their family."

— Jack Odgaard, editor

Photos by Jack Odgaard and Perry Gruber

Shared Services folks have reason to celebrate

On Oct. 18 the Shared Services group met at the Lloyd Center DoubleTree Hotel to kick-off its new work year and take stock of the past year. The third annual start-of-year all-employee meeting also drew then-Administrator Judi Johansen and the new head of Employee and Business Resources, Senior Vice President Terry Esvelt.

Lynda Stelzer, Vice President of Shared Services, led the program that looked at the group's focus for the next year. A big part of the new year start is looking back at the past year. And recognizing

people for their achievements in the fourth quarter.

Shared Services had a lot to celebrate from the last year. It scored an overall 92 percent client satisfaction and delivered its products and services under budget. Some of the work statistics are impressive for groups within Shared Services.

Personnel services stepped up recruiting in the past year and brought on 314 new employees. The group handled 21,000 personnel actions and more than 900 consulting tasks. Training folks put on 310 classes for the Business Solutions Project.

The workplace services group moved 1,100 work stations last year. Mail services handled 2.1 million pieces and media services printed more

than 8.5 million items. Security put in place the Ross Complex Emergency Plan.

Information systems made the Y2K rollover without problems and helped the Business Solutions Project get started. Its security handled the problems caused by the "I Love You Virus" and helped block or stop some other viruses early. The telephone staff moved the phones for hundreds of work station moves. And the operators took thousands of phone calls and the technicians maintained BPA's huge phone system.

Internal operations handled 6,500 requests last year from the administrator's office, corporate staffs and the Shared Services staff itself. In the past year the group also moved the Boise and Seattle offices to less expensive sites.



1



2



3



4



5

Shared Services employees faced up to the their year ahead, and faced up to a successful last year (all left to right). (1) Roy Smithey makes a point with then-Administrator Judi Johansen. (2) Nancy Wallschlaeger and Shelli Dunbar are half serious. (3) John Quade Jr. and John O'Donnell seem laid back. (4) Sonja Smith and Sylvia Logan are all smiles. (5) Becky Steinhardt, Jim Starr and Bob Feldhan enjoy the meeting.

Photos by Bob Heims

*Happy Hanukkah,
Merry Christmas
and happy holidays to all
from the Circuit.*

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